

SPECIAL ELECTION PLANNED ON OCT. 19

City Opens Talks on Airport Triangle Options

New Vote On Civic Site Due

Tentative plans to call for a special election here on Oct. 19 to put bond issues on a new civic center and swimming pool before Torrance voters was given official status here this week when City Clerk A. H. Bartlett certified that more than 15 per cent of the qualified voters had signed petitions calling for the election.

City Attorney James Hall reported yesterday that he had been preparing the resolutions and ordinances necessary to call such an election, and that he had asked the legal firm of O. Melvany and Myers to check on the possibility of holding a special election here on that date.

Issues in the election would probably be similar to those defeated by a very narrow margin last spring—\$750,000 for a civic center and \$250,000 for a swimming pool.

"We'll put it over this time," said Mrs. Herma Tillim, who led the drive for signatures on the petitions which asked for a special election on the two bond issues.

A committee will work out plans for a campaign to get the proposals passed, she reported. One of the early features of the campaign will be a mass meeting to interest as many as possible in taking an active part in the drive.

The Youth Coordinating Council will conduct an all-out drive to get the measures passed, Mrs. Tillim said. She indicated that they would be interested particularly in the swimming pool proposal. Planned are parades and other activities. Others are planning door-to-door campaigns.

Proposed site of the center is the area between Maple and Madrona Aves. north of Torrance Blvd.

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North Torrance High School Construction Starts Monday

No Action In Death Of Youth

No action has been taken yet to schedule an inquest into the death of Barry Raine Wright, 10-year-old victim of a shooting accident last Thursday, according to officials at the County Coroner's office.

Young Wright was accidentally killed by a playmate, Chester Miller Jr., as he tripped over some shoes in the bedroom of the Miller home at 2150 W. 237th St. He was carrying a 16-gauge shotgun in an effort to frighten Barry and two brothers into leaving the house.

Funeral services for the boy were held in the Inglewood Chapel on Tuesday, with the Rev. John B. Gunn officiating.

The boy was born in Inglewood, and had lived there until about two weeks before the accident. At that time, he moved with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Wright, to 2450 W. 237th St. in Torrance.

In addition to his parents and twin brother, Gary, he is survived by two brothers, Phillip, of Lakewood, and John at home; a sister, Sherry, at home, and grandparents, Mrs. A. delaine Wright, of Montrose, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Palmer Erwin, of Phoenix, Ariz.

Interment was in Inglewood Park Cemetery.

Mothers Work on Plan to Retain Day Care Center

Attempts to keep the Day Care Center functioning past the Sept. 10 deadline will reach a climax next week when a committee of mothers presents its plan to the Board of Education for approval.

A group of about 25 mothers visited the Board meeting Tuesday to protest its move to discontinue the Day Care Center on Sept. 10.

The center, formed during the war to care for children of women defense workers, provides before and after-school care for 36 children at present and is almost 100 per cent supported by the State. Whether this aid stops is up to the local Board. Women pay a fee which is prorated according to their salary and number of children.

Need Classroom Space
The Board decided to abolish the center to help relieve the crowded situation at North Torrance Elementary School by taking some children off double sessions, and because the service cannot be provided for all working mothers in Torrance.

Beverly B. Smith, chairman of the Planning Commission, appeared at the Tuesday meeting to speak in behalf of local industry and proposed that a committee be formed to meet with the City Manager in an attempt to provide another building for the center. "These women are vital to our industry here," he said.

Seek City Buildings
The mothers have inquired about use of two city buildings in which to continue the program. (Continued on Page 22)



TALKING SHOP... Three of the nation's top figures in the ammunition supply business discuss matters between them during a brief visit here this week. Left to right are Brig. Gen. John B. Medaris, chief of the Industrial Division, U.S. Army Ordnance Corps; Lt. Col. J. E. Johnston, deputy district chief for the Los Angeles Ordnance District; and Leo M. Harvey, chairman of the board of Harvey Machine Co. The picture was taken during a tour of Harvey facilities by the officers.

Ordnance Chief Visits Two Torrance Industries

"Harvey Aluminum is one of the few manufacturers in the ammunition component industry, an extremely competitive field, that is still engaged in active production," Brig. Gen. John B. Medaris, chief of the Industrial Division of the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps, said here Monday afternoon.

"Most of the others have been cut out since the end of hostilities in Korea which brought about a sizeable reduction in the arms budget," the general said. General Medaris, who has been making an inspection tour of West Coast defense industries, spent two days in Torrance. Monday he toured the plant of Harvey Aluminum, a division of the Harvey Machine Co. Tuesday he toured the National Supply Co. works here.

As industrial chief for the Ordnance Corps, General Medaris has charge of the procurement of all the weapons, ammunition, and vehicles produced by private industry for the United States Army. Harvey Machine Co., under the direction of Leo M. Harvey, chairman of the board, is currently producing ammunition items and is engaged in extensive research and development.

Accompanying the general on his tour of the two local plants was Lt. Col. J. E. Johnston, deputy district chief of the Los Angeles Ordnance District.

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Dale Isenberg, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, called the five-day fair a success both financially and socially.

He stated that attendance checks showed that near 100,000 persons from all over the South Bay area attended Torrance's first Community Fair. Reports are presently being compiled for next year's committees.

Wife Shooter Arraigned Due Friday
Officers left Monday to pick up Roy Howard Friend, 30, of Lawndale, who is wanted in connection with the shooting of his wife, Lt. Howard Gregory of the Lennox Sheriff's Station indicated yesterday.

If the man is returned from Wichita, Kans. by tomorrow, arraignment will be held in South Bay Municipal Court, he said, on charges of assault with intent to commit murder.

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Deadline Set for June '55

Construction is due to start Monday on the new North Torrance High School, following the awarding of the bid Tuesday to the Boespflug Construction Co. for a low bid of \$940,000.

Completion date has been set at 300 calendar days from the starting date, or in June, 1955. In the meantime, Torrance High School will go on double sessions.

Boespflug, a northern contractor, outbid four others for the job. The price divides into a total of \$10.84 per square foot for 86,709 square feet.

The next lowest bid was made by Crown Construction, which offered a price of \$953,575. "We are happy with the bid," Emmett Ingram, School District business manager, said at the Board of Education meeting Tuesday.

Boespflug recently completed a job at Long Beach State College.

Double Session Relief Seen for 'Critical' Areas

Plans that would take 1600 elementary school children off double sessions were begun Tuesday by the Board of Education.

The proposal calls for building portable classroom and kindergarten units to relieve crowded situations in the North Torrance, Perry and Seaside School areas, called critical "pressure points" by Emmett Ingram, business manager of the School District.

The Board moved that groundwork be started, short of letting bids, for three kindergarten and seven double classroom units, at a total cost of \$186,000, that would provide space to take 1600 students off double sessions by housing 822 students.

Money for the buildings will come from the recent bond issue, Ingram said. The double classrooms will house 462 students and the kindergartens 360. This will put 822 children into new rooms which house 362 students.

The 822 that they have been double up with, Ingram explained. Site plans should be ready for the Board in 30 to 45 days, he said.

Chamber Secretaries To Host Airport Group

Members of the new Airport Commission and the Chamber of Commerce Development committee will be guests at the August meeting of the Chambers of Commerce Secretaries Assn. meeting on Aug. 27, it was reported here yesterday by Dale Isenberg, secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce.

The meeting, to be held at the Sky Room at the Lockheed Terminal in Burbank, will feature a discussion of airport development, small, medium, and large, Isenberg said.



POST-ACCIDENT AID... An unidentified bystander comforts Jacqueline Winninger, 21, of 25540 Cypress Ave., Lomita, after a two-car collision at Pacific Coast Hwy. and Crenshaw Blvd. Mrs. Winninger and the driver of the car in which she was riding, Mary Ellen Jones, 19, 2153 238th St., were slightly injured, while the driver of the other car, Berly Grace Palatz, 33, of 805 Cranbrook Ave., was reported in "fair" condition at Harbor General Hospital. The cars collided as Mrs. Palatz was making a left turn from the highway on to Crenshaw.

Large Developer Eyes Hot Corner

City Manager George Stevens was given the green light this week to proceed with discussions with one of the Southland's leading commercial real estate developers, Coldwell-Banker and Co., about development of the city's 34-acre airport triangle at Crenshaw Blvd. and Pacific Coast Hwy.

The action of the City Council was done on the recommendation of the new Airport Commission that the Council open negotiations for a six-month option on the site to the firm.

Recommendation of the commission last week followed a lengthy discussion of the area with two representatives of Coldwell-Banker, Venard E. Kemp and Herbert Albright Jr.

Albright pointed out that the firm he represented had developed the Crenshaw Center, Panorama City, and are now building one in Anaheim.

Lot of Money
"All of these shopping centers are similar to the one they propose for the subject site," Albright said. "When it is done right, you have a possibility of over \$500,000,000 in sales per year—that's a lot of money," he added.

Commission President R. C. Herrick said the airport was their prime objective, and that it "won't do a thing for the airport."

"I'm not too well impressed that one-half of one per cent is such a beautiful revenue, either," he said in regard to the potential sales tax return from the area.

A major tenant would probably want relief from the government's recapture clause in the airport deed to the city, Kemp told the commissioners.

Corner Site
As for development of the corner of Crenshaw and Pacific Coast Hwy., Albright said that if the Clock Drive-In leases a building, the firm would spend at least \$40,000 for fixtures and

Young Son of Tartar Coach Called 'Hero'

Robbie Graybehl, seven-year-old son of Torrance High School football coach Cliff Graybehl, became a hero Thursday when he summoned firemen to douse a grass fire that threatened the fences behind his neighbors' houses on Huber St.

Robbie, who lives at 23108 Huber St., was baby sitting with his little brother, Stevie, 2, while his mother was taking brother Howard, 4, to the doctor. Suddenly he heard a fire crackling and saw smoke near the Santa Fe tracks behind his home.

The lad ran to his neighbors' homes, but, when he could rouse no one, called the telephone operator and said "give me a fireman, please." His tone of voice was so serious that the operator

Department was dispatched by truck and five firemen, much to Robbie's delight.

They put out the flames, which began behind a home at 23104 Huber St., and thanked Robbie for calling them.

Act of Congress May Reunite Pair

An Act of Congress sought by Congressman Cecil R. King may reunite a Torrance husband and wife who have been separated by 3000 miles for the past year by a legal technicality.

Now pending Senate confirmation, is House Resolution 8214, a bill introduced by Congressman King five months ago "for the relief of Mrs. Dorothy Nell Woolgar Allen" which unanimously passed the House of Representatives early this month.

The bill, as enacted by the House, "admits to the United States for permanent residence" Mrs. Allen, whose husband is at 1522 Beech Ave.

Entered in 1938
Mrs. Allen originally entered the United States in 1938 on a visitor's visa, moved to Torrance in 1943 and married in 1946. Last year she returned to Canada in order to make a proper entry into this country. She was barred from re-entry by the Immigration Department on a technical count and for the past 12 months has been living in Toronto, Canada, while awaiting return to her husband and home in Torrance.

After exhausting all other legal courses of action, Thomas R. Allen, a maintenance electrician at National Supply Company, presented the plight of his wife to Congressman King early this year.

Data Furnished
South Bay Municipal Court Judge John A. Shidler, and Rev. Arthur E. Bello, rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church of Torrance, furnished the required data for Congressional intervention.

After introduction by Congressman King, the Bill to aid Mrs. Allen was referred to the House Judiciary Committee and then followed a long series of investigations, committee reports and more checking, and its final passage.